

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

The present invention provides methods and apparatus for a wireless system broadcasting a plurality of data packets to a wireless terminal as the wireless terminal performs a handover in order to support a service. Corresponding data packets are sent in bursts from base stations to the wireless terminal. The data packets are encoded with a forward error correcting (FEC) code, thus generating encoded symbols. When the wireless terminal executes a handover from the first base station to the second base station, some of the encoded symbols (that are contained in the bursts of data packets) may be lost or may be corrupted, as result of practical network considerations and radio propagation characteristics. Consequently, the wireless terminal decodes the received data packets in accordance with the FEC code so that missing or corrupted encoded symbols may be determined.